

our national security infrastructure simply cannot and should not have to bear this burden. Now men and women across the country—the engineers, architects, welders, and manufacturers—who have devoted their lives to our national security find themselves losing pay and struggling to get by.

Although the Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force have said they would be able to complete the fiscal year without furloughs, the Secretary of Defense would not allow the service Secretaries to make their own decisions based on their individual budgetary constraints. The entire Department is now suffering as a result.

Mr. Speaker, this body has acted multiple times to end this process, and I urge the Senate and the President to offer their real solutions to this problem so that we can relieve this costly burden on our defense civilian workforce. These men and women who devote their lives to this country's service deserve better from their government.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PASSING OF FORMER CONGRESSMAN BILL GRAY

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise with a great deal of sadness. I am saddened by the passing of my friend, William H. Gray, who represented the people of Pennsylvania's Second District in this House from 1979 to 1991.

Bill Gray was an historic figure. I had the honor of serving as vice chairman of the Democratic Caucus when he chaired the Democratic Caucus. He made history as the first African American Democratic whip from 1989 to 1991. As Budget chairman, Bill Gray played an instrumental role in setting the stage for the balanced budgets of the 1990s.

He was a leading voice against apartheid. Some of us just participated in a birthday celebration for Nelson Mandela in Emancipation Hall. Bill Gray was a leading advocate of changing the apartheid system in South Africa, and it was because of his efforts that we were able to enact sanctions against South Africa.

After retiring from Congress, Bill Gray led the United Negro College Fund, helping literally thousands access higher education and the opportunities that come with it. Throughout his tenure, Bill Gray continued to minister to the families of the Bright Hope Baptist Church as their pastor. His deep faith and enduring love for his fellow man was evident not only from the pulpit but from the committee rooms and on this floor.

I join my colleagues in expressing my condolences to Andrea and their sons, William, Justin, and Andrew, and in thanking them for sharing Bill Gray with all of us and with our country. We

were privileged to serve with him, to know him, and to be his friend.

SMALL BUSINESS AND OBAMACARE

(Mr. HOLDING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, at a time when just under 60 percent of working-age Americans are employed, wherever there is potential for job growth we should seize the opportunity, and, clearly, small businesses provide opportunity. Although our economy has fluctuated and wavered over the last 15 years, in that time, small businesses have created 64 percent of net new jobs.

Mr. Speaker, just 8 percent of the President's Cabinet members worked in the private business sector prior to their appointments. This Cabinet has less business experience than the previous 19 Cabinets. It is no wonder this administration did not clearly recognize the harmful effects that ObamaCare would have on small business.

We should be helping small businesses by reforming our burdensome Tax Code and by curbing back excessive regulation. That is why, yesterday, the House passed the delay of the employer and individual mandates, but we must permanently repeal ObamaCare. The future of small businesses and families depends on it.

VOTING RIGHTS ACT

(Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to appeal for immediate action. Last month, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the heart of the Voting Rights Act.

My dear colleagues, casting a ballot is our most sacred right. We have a moral duty to come together and rewrite this law in order to protect this precious right to vote. Though we have made great progress, racial discrimination and racial profiling continue to plague our society. The need for the Voting Rights Act is just as necessary today as it was in 1965.

On Nelson Mandela's 95th birthday, I am reminded that the human race has come a long way, but we must continue to make the impossible possible. I urge my colleagues to come together to update the Voting Rights Act.

DELAY OBAMACARE: IT'S ONLY FAIR

(Mrs. HARTZLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, this White House needs to learn a thing or two about fairness.

Why do they feel the need to delay the implementation of ObamaCare for businesses but not for individuals? If businesses get a break, why should hardworking Americans be left on the hook?

This law is unfair for everyone.

It's unfair to those who are going to have to pay more out of their pockets when their insurance premiums shoot up. It's unfair to workers who are going to see their hours cut because of the insurance costs. It's unfair to everyone who is going to have all of his or her personal medical information placed in the hands of a government bureaucrat.

It's unfair to every American across this country.

House Republicans believe that if you're going to give a break to Big Business you need to do the same for individuals and families. It's only fair.

MANDELA DAY

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to wish a happy 95th birthday to President Nelson Mandela and ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the fifth annual Mandela International Day.

It is a day on which we celebrate the incredible dedication of President Mandela and his gifts of leadership to South Africa and to the world. In fact, in the face of extreme adversity, he relentlessly fought for democracy and peace in South Africa, and has become a model of leadership for me and for millions around the globe.

Last night, I had the pleasure of meeting youngsters from all over South Africa at the South Africa-Washington International Program Forum. Because of President Mandela, these youngsters and many others have dedicated themselves to public service and to carrying on his vision of spreading peace, democracy and diversity.

Presidential Mandela has proven that one person can change the tide of oppression, that one person can change the course of an entire country and, in turn, of the entire world. People all around the globe who are suffering from oppression, hatred, and discrimination will forever be grateful for the incredible leadership of Nelson Mandela.

Happy birthday, Madiba.

CONGRESS MUST ENFORCE THE CONSTITUTION

(Mr. PITTENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge the Senate to join the House of Representatives in taking immediate action to delay the employer and individual health care mandates.

President Obama has conceded that Americans are not ready for